

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PER-01 SS-15 SP-02 SAB-02 MMO-01
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FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7049

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FOR M/DG; ARA/PAN

FROM AMBASSADOR JORDEN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AMGT, APER
SUBJECT: TREATY IMPLEMENTATION - PERSONNEL

REF: A. PANAMA 274, B. PANAMA 1661, C. PANAMA 3327

1. WE ARE PLEASED TO HEAR THAT THE CHESTERS HAVE BEEN
ASSIGNED HERE AND CONCUR IN THE NEED FOR SPANISH
LANGUAGE TRAINING. WE LOOK FORWARD TO THEIR ARRIVAL
IN SEPTEMBER.

2. AT THE SAME TIME, I MUST STRESS ONCE AGAIN THAT I
AM ACUTELY STRAPPED FOR PERSONNEL IN THE CURRENT,
CRUCIAL STAGE OF PLANNING FOR IMPLEMENTATION. HINSON,
WHO HAS CARRIED MOST OF THE TREATY-PLANNING LOAD FOR
THE EMBASSY UNTIL RECENTLY, WILL LEAVE IN JUNE FOR HOME
LEAVE AND REASSIGNMENT. THUS, POLITICAL COUNSELOR
TAYLOR WILL BE VIRTUALLY ALONE IN TREATY PLANNING
UNTIL NEW PERSONNEL ARRIVE. AND, AS THE DEPARTMENT
IS AWARE, THE MAGNITUDE AND COMPLEXITY OF THE SUBJECT
ARE GREAT. THERE IS A HUGE AMOUNT OF FACTUAL BACK-
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GROUND (INCLUDING NEGOTIATING HISTORY AND PRIOR ART
IN TREATY PLANNING BY USG AGENCIES HERE OVER THE
PAST EIGHT MONTHS) WHICH ANY NEW PERSONNEL WILL HAVE
TO ABSORB. THERE IS THUS LIKELY TO BE A PERCEPTIBLE
PERIOD AFTER ARRIVAL OF NEW PERSONNEL (EXCEPT,
PERHAPS, MRS. CHESTER, WHO IN ANY EVENT WILL NOT
ARRIVE UNTIL SEPTEMBER) BEFORE THEY WILL BEGIN TO

CONTRIBUTE EFFECTIVELY.

3. CONSEQUENTLY, I STRONGLY URGE THAT THE NEW LABOR ATTACHE BE ASSIGNED AT ONCE AND SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. LABOR POLICY IS A KEY AREA OF POSSIBLE FUTURE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE US AND PANAMA, AND IT IS BEING MADE HERE RIGHT NOW.

4. OTHER AUGMENTATION PERSONNEL SHOULD ALSO REACH HERE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. I NEED THESE NEW OFFICERS BADLY.

5. SEE REFTELS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE REASONS FOR URGENCY OF EARLY ARRIVAL OF PERSONNEL. JORDEN

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